Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/064,410	LIN, TZUENG-YAU	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Michael P. Choi	2621	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to *amendment after final on 8/6/2007*.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are *1-6*.

3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
   a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .
      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
   (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
   (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

   Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____ .
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-6 are allowable.

2. Claims 7-19 have been cancelled.

3. The present invention is directed to a method of managing an input buffer in a media player for playing a media file.

Claims 1, 2, and 3 identify the uniquely distinct method "if the decoder is informed to decode from the middle of the media file, then: locating a first frame having a first main_data_begin field and a first main_data field, if a value in the totalizer is less than a value in the first main_data_begin field, adding a size of the first main_data field to the totalizer, and storing the first main_data field in the input buffer; and locating a second frame which is downstream to the first frame, the second frame having a second main_data_begin field and a second main_data field, if a value in the totalizer is equal to or larger than a value in the second main_data_begin field, decoding the stream of frames starting from the second frame using both the first main_data field stored in the input buffer and the second main_data field; and if the decoder is informed to decode from the beginning of the media file, then locating a third frame having a third main_data_begin field with a value of zero and a third main_data field, and decoding the stream of frames starting from the third frame."

Claims 4, 5 and 6 identify the uniquely distinct method " locating a first frame having a first main_data_begin field and a first main_data field, if a value in the totalizer is less than a value in the first main_data_begin field, adding a size of the first main_data_field to the totalizer, and storing the first main_data field in the input buffer; and locating a second frame which is downstream to the first frame, the second frame having a second main_data_begin field and a second main_data field, if a value in the totalizer is equal to or larger than a value in a second main_data_begin field, decoding the stream of frames starting from the second frame using both the first main_data field stored in the input buffer and the second main_data field."

4. The closest prior art, Lueck et al. (U.S. 6,721,710 B1) and Wang (US 7,069,208 B2) either singularly or in combination fail to anticipate or render the above quoted limitations obvious. Wang discloses the usage of a buffer enhancing coding efficiency as well as a short term buffer techniques called a 'bit reservoir' for using a short term variable bit rate with maximal integral offset from a mean bit rate. Lueck also describes audio frames beginning with a main data part, which is located by using a 'main data begin' point of a current frame. From which, all main data being resident in the input buffer when the header of a next incoming frame arrives into the input buffer.

5. Lueck et al. discloses counters that mark and register a total amount of main data as well as the main data per instant frame as input. As each frame is entered, a computation of the amount of each main data is accounted for and updated respectively for each new additional main data. And in the case wherein the total amount of main data is equal to or greater than the main data begin then the decoding processing begins. Whereas if that were not the case, a shift would be performed whereby the main data coming before the header of an incoming frame along with the main data following the header are reallocated.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael P. Choi whose telephone number is (571) 272-9594. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8:00AM - 5:30PM (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thai Tran can be reached on (571) 272-7382. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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